THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 25th April 1947.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. President (THE HON. SRI R. B. RAMAKRISHNA RAJU) in the Chair.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Muslim High School, Bellary.

* 167-A Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Advisers' Government sanctioned the establishment of a separate Muslim High School in Bellary; if so, when;

(*b*) (i) whether the Executive authority of the Bellary Municipality permitted the occupation of one-half of the premises of the present Municipal High School, Bellary, for the purpose of housing the Muslim High School;

(ii) if so, the authority under which this was done;

(*c*) whether, on account of such occupation, the lower classes of the Municipal High School are now located in the Prince of Wales choultry, Bellary, where a number of beggars and vagrants gather every day; if so, what the Government propose to do to set right this matter;

(*d*) whether, on account of such occupation, the Headmaster of the Municipal High School was obliged to refuse admission to as many as three hundred non-Muslim students last year; and

(*e*) whether the Government propose to take any action to house the Muslim High School in a separate building from June 1947?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (*a*) Yes; the order was issued on the 1st April 1946; the sanction was to take effect from the school year 1946–47.

" (*b*) (i) Yes; purely as a temporary measure till a suitable rented building is secured.

(ii) The Government have no information.

" (*c*) Yes; three lower classes are located in the Rani choultry; but the Government have no information that beggars and vagrants are allowed to gather in the choultry.

" (*d*) Only 133 students were refused admission for want of accommodation.

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"(e) The Municipal Council is the authority responsible for making the necessary arrangements; it has taken steps to house the school in separate buildings from the next school year."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know who is responsible for the inconvenience that is caused to many students who have been refused admission?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Municipality wanted to open a new Muslim High School. They had to locate it somewhere."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If I make an application to open a school, is it easy to get permission to open it unless all the conditions governing recognition are satisfied? Have the Municipal authorities satisfied all the conditions for recognition?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Director of Public Instruction accepted the conditions for opening the school. They had to locate the lower classes of the Municipal High School in the Rani choultry. I do not think much inconvenience was caused."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know whether it is easy to get permission to open a school when there is no accommodation? Why were the lower classes of the existing school turned out in order to open a new school?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" The Municipality wanted to open very urgently a separate High School for Muslims. The Director of Public Instruction sanctioned the scheme."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I ask whether the Hon. Minister knows if the Director of Public Instruction agreed to the location of this High School in the building of the Municipal High School?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I have no information."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister call for a report on this matter whether there is any overcrowding in the existing schools, whether there is accommodation for two High Schools in the same building and whether the present arrangement is causing considerable inconvenience to the students?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" At this distance of time, there is no use calling for a report now; but if the hon. Member wants information, I shall call for it."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know whether a new building has been found for housing the new school from next year?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" As I have already stated, the Municipality has taken steps to have a new building for the school from the next school year."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" The Municipality has been taking steps to acquire a building from June 1946 for this purpose. Has it been able to do so? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI.—" The Municipal Council informs the Government that it has found some suitable building for the purpose."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" If no suitable building is available for the Muslim High School, will the Government order that High School to be closed till it finds accommodation instead of grouping the two schools together in one building? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I am unable to give the assurance asked by the hon. Member."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether the students who are studying in the Muslim High School are students of the locality and are entitled to be admitted into the schools run by the Municipality and whether any case has been made out for closing the Muslim High School? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" Perhaps the hon. Member is right in assuming that the Muslim School admits non-Muslim students also."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the Municipal High School admits Muslim boys also and whether instruction is given in Urdu to Muslim students? May I know whether there is not an Urdu section in each class of the Municipal High School? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" There were Urdu sections in the Municipal High School. The Director of Public Instruction sanctioned the opening of a separate high school."

K. T. M. AHMED IBRAHIM SAHIB BAHADUR :—" May I know whether Urdu is the medium of instruction in the Muslim High School? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I have no information."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I ask whether there was not a separate section for each form in the Municipal High School for giving instruction in Urdu by Urdu teachers? "

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I think instruction was given in Urdu for Muslim boys in every class."

Officers in the Madras Fire Service.

* 168 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of European and Indian Officers in the Madras Fire Service;